



Going Green In James City County



Green Building Design Round Table Forum

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Going Green In James City County

- Issues: The Big Picture
 - Mid-Atlantic sea-level will rise 4-12 inches by 2030 (loss of 100 ft. or more of shoreline)
 - Anticipate more frequent tropical storms, more damage
 - Could disrupt agriculture & forestry, population, wildlife, and economy

Source: VIMS



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- Issues: Local Picture
 - Dominion Power fuel rates increase 17-22%
 - Gasoline prices
 - Traffic congestion
 - Water Resources
 - Land Use





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- September 25, 2007

Resolution:

Cool Counties

Declaration (votes 5-0)

Strategic goals to stop greenhouse gas emission growth by 2010 and work toward 80% reduction by 2050.





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- Components of Initiative

- Pledge

- Inventory Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions of County Operations
 - Implement policies, programs, operations
 - Work closely with local, state, federal governments to:
 - reduce County geographical GHGs to 80% below current level
 - Reduce GHGs 10% every five years: 2010-2050





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- Energy Conservation
- Solid Waste Management
- Green Building Design
- Fleet Management



TheFunTimesGuide.com



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Green Team Strategic Objectives

- Mission: To develop County Operations planning, policy and investment strategies to reduce GHG emissions.
- Provide guidance to:
 - Examine & evaluate climate change approaches
 - Identify programs and set priorities
 - Support public information and outreach efforts
 - Assist with annual climate stabilization report



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- **First Accomplishment**

- 2008 Green Government Challenge, sponsored by the Virginia Municipal League
- Won 3rd place award in population category





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- Background
 - Local government agencies spend \$10 billion a year on energy
 - Nearly 1/3 goes to waste
 - Buildings contribute over 50% of US CO₂ emissions





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- Planning Forward
 - 42 buildings and structures
 - Combined area of 347,130 sq. ft.
- Three step process:
 - No cost changes
 - Low-hanging fruit
 - Investments





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- Best Practices:
 - Pre-programmed thermostats are being installed in all County facilities
 - County standard temperatures: 68-76°F
 - Turn off the fluorescent lights
 - 15 minute rule





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- Achievements
 - General Services **Energy Reductions & Solutions** staff publication & all_staff email
 - Installation of more energy efficient heating equip.
 - Replaced aged light fixtures with energy efficient lighting





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- The Link Between Solid Waste Management and GHG Emissions
 - Reduce methane emissions from landfills
 - Reduce emissions from energy consumption by recycling – requires less fossil fuels than extracting raw materials to manufacture products
 - Increases forest carbon sequestration by allowing trees to remain standing





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- County Accomplishments
 - County operations recycles ~229,000 lbs/year
 - Saves enough energy to power 50 homes for a year! (Source: EPA WasteWI\$E)
 - ‘Free-Bay’ reduces procurement, saves tax payer’s \$, and reduces solid waste





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- Best Practices:
 - Recently improved by uniform bin system & improved labeling
 - Blue bin for recyclables
 - Black hanging bin for trash
 - What is recyclable?
 - What is **not** recyclable?
 - Recycling saves \$\$





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- Background

- CO₂ emissions rose in Virginia 34% from 1990 to 2004
 - Nearly twice national average, due to economic growth and development patterns
- VA in top 10 states:
increase in # of cars
(30%) from 1990 to 2004





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- Best Practices:
 - Gen. Services Fleet & Equipment
 - Green Fleet Policy: alternative fuels, fuel efficient vehicles, 2010 fuel reduction goal of 20%
 - No idling when parked for 5 minutes or more, unless essential for work
 - Police Dept.
 - including no unnecessary idling (turn engine off when feasible)



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JCC Office of Housing & Community Development Ironbound Square Redevelopment Project EarthCraft Homes



Site planning
Bldg materials
HVAC system
Water Efficiency
Energy Efficiency
Air Quality
Landscaping
Waste Management





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Current Green Programs

- Purchasing Division's Free Bay Program – saves landfill space, reduces operating cost
- Solid Waste Management's Mulch Program – recycled 502 tons of brush, FREE MULCH
- Parks & Rec Computer Reuse Program – Since 2000, 355 computer parts reused
- Accounting Division's Paperless Payroll System – reduces paper waste
- Fire Department's Farmers Market in Toano - reduce the environmental impacts from transportation, cold storage



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JCSA Water and Wastewater

- Let's Be Water Smart
- Rain Barrel Rebate
- Fats, Oil & Grease
- Irrigation Restrictions





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NEWS RELEASE

April 10, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Wins State Recycling Award

The James City County “Goes Green” Program has won the Virginia Recycling Association’s (VRA) 2009 Outstanding County Recycling Performance Award. The County “Goes Green” program continues to set the community standard for all individual citizens and corporate citizens. The program is recognized by the VRA for a series of initiatives and goals that have been accomplished during calendar years 2007-08.



Questions?



On Course Toward a Sustainable Future

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